

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ALGIER 01525 170706Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 DOE-15 H-02 INR-10 INT-05
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 ICA-20 OES-07
SP-02 SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 PA-02 ARA-14
AF-10 EA-12 /175 W

-----124459 181241Z /53,

R 161338Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8546
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY QUITO
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMCONSUL ORAN POUCH
USINT BAGHDAD

UNCLAS ALGIERS 1525

E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, AG, OPEC
SUBJ: OFFICIAL DAILY BEMOANS FALL IN REAL PRICE OF OIL

1. OFFICIAL DAILY EL MOUDJAHID FOR MAY 14 CARRIED AN ARTICLE BE-
MOANING RESULT OF TAIF OPEC MEETING. PAPER SAYS A "CLIMATE OF OBS-
CURITY AND CONFUSION" REIGNS ON THE OIL PRICE, THE WORLD ENERGY
MARKET, AND THE FUTURE OF OPEC.

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2. ARTICLE SAYS ALGERIA IS READY TO DISCUSS THESE PROBLEMS BUT
OPEC LACKS VIGOR AND INITIATIVE. OPEC ESTABLISHED THE PRODUCERS'
FULL SOVEREIGNTY IN 1973 BUT HAS SINCE LOST MUCH OF ITS POWER. WHILE
OPEC HAS FORZEN OIL PRICES -- WHICH HAS MEANT A PRICE DECLINE IN
REAL TERMS -- THE INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES HAVE PRACTICED DISCRI-
MINATION IN THEIR PRICING OF CAPITAL GOODS AND HAVE MANIPULATED

THE MONETARY SYSTEM TO THEIR OWN ADVANTAGE. SOME OPEC MEMBERS EVEN SAY THAT OPEC SHOULD BE CONCERNED WITH THE INTERESTS OF THE INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES, AND THIS AT A TIME WHEN THOSE COUNTRIES DEAL WITH THE THIRD WORLD ONLY IN A POWER RELATIONSHIP.

3. ARTICLE CONCLUDES THAT CERTAIN "NATIONAL EGOTISMS" RISK HAVING NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES ON INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND AGGRAVATING THE WORLD'S ECONOMIC DISORDERS.

4. COMMENT. THE ALGERIANS WANT MORE MONEY. HAYNES

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NNN

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